

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 AID-05
CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01
INR-07 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-06 SS-15
SP-02 INT-05 CU-02 OIC-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 /115 W
-----180413Z 080677 /13

R 171308Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6880
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAIROBI 3474

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, UNEP
SUBJECT: LUNCHEON WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR, MARCH 16

REF: (A) STATE 052770, (B) NAIROBI 2977, (C) STATE 056935,
(D) STATE 042643, (E) NAIROBI 1952

1. AMBASSADOR, PERMREP TO UNEP AND POL COUNSELOR DISCUSSED
UNEP MATTERS WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO KENYA AND PERMREP TO
UNEP MIROSHNICHENKO AND HIS COLLEAGUES AT LUNCHEON MARCH 16.
IN REPLY TO OUR QUERY, SOVIET AMBASSADOR STATED THAT THE
EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD BE PRESENTING A CANDIDATE
FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF GC V. HE STATED, FOR OUR INFORMATION
ONLY AT THIS TIME, THAT POLAND WOULD PROBABLY PROVIDE THE
CANDIDATE.

2. RE FUTURE FINANCING OF THE ENVIRONMENT FUND, SOVIETS TOOK
THE POSITION THAT DOLS 100 MILLION SHOULD ALSO BE CEILING FOR
THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. IN THEIR VIEW, UNLESS A DOLLAR LIMIT IS
IMPOSED ON SECRETARIAT THE LEVEL OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY WILL
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CONTINUE TO RISE. WE OUTLINED US POSITION AND GAVE THEM COPY
OF PERMREP'S LETTER TO TOLBA (REF D). THEY WERE NOT
CONVINCED OF WISDOM OF OUR POSITION, PREFERRING ARBITRARY
DOLLAR LIMIT TO RESTRICT SECRETARIAT RATHER THAN ANNUAL
PLEDGE RELATED TO BIENNIAL BUDGET AND MID-TERM PLAN.

3. WE REVIEWED RESULTS OF OZONE LAYER MEETING, DRAWING

ON REFS A AND C, AND AMBASSADOR MARSHALL COMMENTED ON CONSTRUCTIVE PARTICIPATION OF SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE SEDUNOV. AMBASSADOR ALSO URGED SOVIETS ATTEND APRIL 26-28 MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON THE REGULATION OF FLUOROCARBONS. THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT HE WOULD MAKE A POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION TO MOSCOW.

4. WE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN ABOUT FAILURE OF GOVERNMENTS TO BE INVOLVED IN PREPARATIONS OF TBILISI CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND EDUCATION, AND LACK OF INFORMATION SO FAR AVAILABLE TO THEM ON AGENDA AND POSSIBLE PLAN OF ACTION FOLLOWING CONFERENCE. SOVIETS INDICATED THAT DRAWING UP OF AGENDA WAS RESPONSIBILITY OF UNESCO AND UNEP, AND THAT TALKS BETWEEN THE USSR, UNESCO AND UNEP WERE CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE IN PARIS AND THAT IT BEST AWAIT RESULTS OF THESE DISCUSSIONS.

5. MAIN THEME ON SOVIET SIDE WAS ON THE NEED FOR SOME KIND OF INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND OVERSEE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION ON FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. THEY WERE UNSURE OF EXACT MANDATE, COMPOSITION AND STATUS OF SUCH A GROUP, BUT WERE OBVIOUSLY INTERESTED IN GETTING OUR SUPPORT AND COOPERATION FOR SUCH AN INITIATIVE. WHEN WE PRESSED THEM FOR THE SPECIFICS OF THEIR IDEA, THEY INDICATED IT WAS A MISSION SUGGESTION AND HAD NOT YET BEEN SANCTIONED BY MOSCOW. THEY AGREED THAT ANY SUCH COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE BALANCED GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BUT HAD NOT OBVIOUSLY THOUGHT THROUGH THE QUESTIONS OF THE PRECISE TERMS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFERENCE, WHETHER ITS MEMBERS WOULD BE EXPERTS OR GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES, AND HOW IT WOULD RELATE TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL. THEY STATED THAT THEY WOULD BE MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO MOSCOW ABOUT POSSIBILITY SETTING THE STAGE AT GC V FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF ESTABLISHING SUCH A COMMITTEE (THEY RECOGNIZED THERE NOT SUFFICIENT TIME FOR DEFINITIVE ACTION BY GC V). WE URGED THEM TO REFINE THEIR THINKING ABOUT THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE, AT WHICH TIME WE WOULD TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THEIR PROPOSAL.

6. THE SOVIETS SUGGESTED THAT WE MEET AGAIN PRIOR TO GC V. ALTHOUGH THE DISCUSSIONS DID NOT TOUCH DIRECTLY UPON THEIR SUGGESTED TOPIC OF "USING UNEP WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF BILATERAL US-USSR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT" OUR IMPRESSION WAS STRENGTHENED THAT THEIR DESIRE TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH US SHOULD BE READ IN THE BILATERAL RATHER THAN A MULTILATERAL CONTEXT.

7. WE THINK THAT THE IDEA OF AN INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE HAS SOME MERIT AND WE SHOULD LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE POSSIBILITIES. THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY COMMITTEE ON THE IAEA MAY SUGGEST AN EXAMPLE THAT COULD BE ADAPTED TO UNEP'S NEEDS. PERMREP WILL BE MAKING SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIAL RECEPTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB03474
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770092-0899
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770350/aaaabqxy.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4c207db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 52770, 77 NAIROBI 2977, 77 STATE 56935, 77 STATE 42643, 77 NAIROBI 1952
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3080407
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUNCHEON WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR, MARCH 16
TAGS: SENV, PORG, UR, US, PL, UNEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4c207db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009